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BACKTALK

A dialog between Sun-Times opinion writers and our readers

Get Chicago freight on track to future, agency says

By Thomas Frisbie on July 19, 2012 12:35 PM | [No Comments](#) | [No TrackBacks](#)



Sorted freight cars are seen on separate tracks as they await completion April 21, 2008, at the Belt Railway Co. of Chicago, one of the busiest rail yards in the country where cars are switched from incoming trains to outgoing trains based on destinations. | M. SPENCER GREEN-AP

On a day when Union Pacific - the nation's largest railroad - was announcing a 28 percent second-quarter surge in income, a Chicago planning agency said the region needs to do more for its freight handling.

"Our region's competitiveness will depend on coordination among freight carriers (truck, rail, water, air), public agencies ... and civic organizations," the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning said.

The Chicago area has the nation's second largest freight cluster, and between a quarter and a third of all freight in the U.S. originates, terminates or passes through this region. But cities such as Memphis, Tenn., and Kansas City, Mo., would like to siphon some of that away.

Read the CMAP report [here](#).

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This page contains a single entry by Thomas Frisbie published on *July 19, 2012 12:35 PM*.

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